

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGSC SNAR, AF, DA
SUBJECT: BADAQSHAN ADDICT TREATMENT FACILITY

REF: GENEVA 4450 AND 4759, COPENHAGEN 3458, STATE 134711

1. DR. KNIPSCHILDT NOT PRESENTLY AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATION ON BADAQSHAN ADDICT TREATMENT FACILITY, BUT NARCOTICS CONTROL COORDINATOR BEARDSLEY CALLED ON THREE DANISH AID (DANIDA) OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH PROJECT JUNE 16. UNOFFICIAL WORKING LEVEL EVALUATION OF PROJECT IS FAVORABLE, BUT SOME RESERVATIONS WERE EXPRESSED.

2. DANIDA'S PRINCIPAL CONCERN, GIVEN THE PLETHORA OF PROBLEMS IN BADAQSHAN OUTLINED IN WHO REPORT, BE IS TO KNOW IF THE PROPOSED ADDICT TREATMENT CENTER ADDRESSES A PRIMARY NEED OR IS SIMPLY COSMETIC.

IN THAT VIEN DANIDA IS ALSO CONCERNED THAT THE PROPOSED PROJECT IS JUST THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG AND LIKELY TO REQUIRE DANISH FINANCIAL AID FOR THE INDEFINITE FUTURE. ALTHOUGH THE DANES DO HAVE LONGTERM AID PROJECs ELSEWHERE, THEY ARE NOT NOW DISPOSED TO MAKE THAT COMMITMENT TO AFGHANISTAN.

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THEY ARE THUS LIKELY TO REQUIRE MORE INFORMATION ON THE "PHASING" OF THE PROJECT (INCLUDING TERMINATION DATE) AND ASSURANCES OF AFGHAN COOPERATION AT EVERY STEP. IN RESPONSE TO ONE QUESTION, THEY WERE TOLD THE US IS NOT LIKELY TO UNDERTAKE PROJECT.

3. WHEN STAFFING OF PROJECT COMPLETED, A BOARD WILL REVIEW

FINDINGS, PROBABLY ASK FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ALONG LINE
PARA TWO, AND ULTIMATELY DECIDE ON PROJECT. AS LONG AS
PROPOSAL COST REMAINS UNDER THREE MILLION KRONER (ABOUT FIVE
HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS), BOARD CAN APPROVE WITHOUT RECOURSE
TO PARLIAMENT. DECISION EXPECTED IN FOUR TO SIX MONTHS.

4. NARCOTICS CONTROL COORDINATOR HAS OFFERED ALL ASSISTANCE
IN MAKING DETERMINATION. DANIDA OFFICIALS SAID THEY MAY
REQUIRE OUTSIDE EXPERTISE, WHICH MAY DELAY EVALUATION. IF
EMBASSY KABUL IN ACCORD, AND INDIVIDUALS AMENABLE, WE COULD
SUGGEST DANIDA CONTACT KNOWLEDGABLE DANISH CITIZENS
RESIDENT IN AFGHANISTAN, EITHER DR. LAURIDSON OF MECIAL
SCIENCE FOR HEALTH OR MRS. GWAZNAWI, THE HONORARY DAISH
CONSUL IN KABUL.

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